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recognizes Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Senator Schrock, I just got a hard copy of this amendment. It's 18 pages long, and I'm still trying to make certain that I understand it. And I guess I would like to go to page 2 of this amendment, where it talks about exempting out agricultural uses, such as bumpers on ag equipment, for ballast to maintain covers or structures on the ag site, for fish habitat, or for tire mats for bank stabilization. And I don't have any opinion on whether that's a good idea or not, but I'd like you to tell me why it's a good idea and why that is environmentally a sound policy.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Schimek, I don't know that this is a good idea. But the fact of the matter is, these are practices that are widely used now and I don't think we're going to change that in this bill, or we want to change it in the bill. It's very common for farmers who put up wet corn piles and silage piles to cover them with black plastic and then put tires on top of them. And there is a concern there, because these tires contain water, which breeds mosquitos, which has your West Nile problem. And we talked about that in committee. And we talked about, if these tires could be split so you can make two tires out of one, they'd be easier to handle, and they would not hold water. But to place this burden on our farmers at this present time that use them for that manner, use them in that manner now, I think would be very difficult. So that's why we are still going to exempt this type of a use. I hope that's a satisfactory explanation. Yes, we did talk about that. And there is concern there.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay. Then my second question, it goes back to the 500 or fewer passenger tires exemption. And how will anybody know whether somebody has that number of tires or not? I mean,...

SENATOR SCHROCK: It's basically so our...the people who are recycling tires don't get a large number of tires on hand, which then becomes a fire, rodent, mosquito problem. We want them, if